

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTER PATENT

PCT Declaration and Power of Attorney (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4))

PCT Application - United States Designated Office

As a below named inventor, I declare that

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **COVERING PANELS, IN PARTICULAR FOR FLOORS, AND COVERING FORMED BY SUCH PANELS**

described and claimed in International Application number PCT/FR99/00678
and, if it was amended, as amended on

filed 23 March 1999

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/647,049 filed September 25, 2000

I have reviewed and understand the contents of said specification, including claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I claim priority benefits under 35 USC §119 of: (i) any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below; or (ii) any United States provisional application(s) listed below; and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed.

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED
FRANCE	98 03 696	25 March 1999	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/>
			yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/>

Thereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office connected therewith: Leonard Holtz, Reg. No. 22,974; Herbert Goodman, Reg. No. 17,081; Thomas Langer, Reg. No. 27,264; Marshall J. Chick, Reg. No. 26,853; Richard S. Barth, Reg. No. 28,180; Douglas Holtz, Reg. No. 33,902; and Robert P. Michal, Reg. No. 35,614.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CALLS TO:

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INVENTOR: SIGNATURE

DATE

RESIDENCE AND POST OFFICE ADDRESS

Sign: <u>X</u> <u>Miodrag NOVAKOVIC</u>	Date: <u>X</u> <u>28 Oct. 2000</u>	Residence: (City & Country) <u>F-78580 Maule, France</u> <u>FR</u>
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Applicant or Patentee: Miodrag NOVAKOVIC Attorney's Docket No: From: LANGER

Serial or Patent No.: 09/647,049

Filed or issued: September 25,

Title: COVERING PANELS, IN PARTICULAR FOR FLOORS, AND COVERING FORMED BY SUCH PANELS

STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under 35 USC 41(a) and 41(b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention described in

1. ☐ the specification filed herewith; or
☒ application above identified; or
☐ patent above identified.
2. ☒ I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention.
3. ☐ Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention and who is entitled to pay reduced fees under 35 USC 41(a) and 41(b), is listed below:

*NOTE: Separate qualified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the is us fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Miodrag NOVAKOVIC
NAME OF INVENTOR NAME OF INVENTOR NAME OF INVENTOR

X Novakovic
Signature of Inventor Signature of Inventor Signature of Inventor

X 28 OCTOBER 2000
Date Date Date